

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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AUSTIN BILL CREATING OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY GOES TO GOVERNOR

INDIANAPOLIS -- House Bill 1137, legislation co-authored by State Rep. Terri Austin (D-Anderson) that creates the Office of Technology, is eligible for final approval.

The Office of Technology will combine the duties of the Division of Information Technology of the Department of Administration, the Information Technology Oversight Committee and the Enhanced Data Access Review Committee.

The office will also assist the Intelenet Commission in maintaining its high-speed integrated telecommunications network and Access Indiana, an electronic portal that provides information and services to Indiana's citizens.

"It is necessary that we keep up with the changing face of technology," said Austin. "By consolidating and streamlining the information technology committees into one office, we are demonstrating that effectively expanding and improving technology and communications in Indiana is one of our top priorities."

The entire process of consolidating most of the state's information technology committees into the Office of Technology is expected to be of minimal cost. The annual budget of all the committees and divisions being absorbed by the Office of Technology is over \$60 million.

"If we want to foster the growth and expansion of technology in Indiana, we need to make sure that we have an effective Office of Technology," Austin said. "This will enable the state to expand the availability of the Internet and other methods of telecommunication to more Hoosiers."

House Bill 1137 will appear before the governor for final approval in the near future.

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This news release can be accessed on the Internet at www.IN.gov/H36